



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER GRAD ACT

**Annual Evaluation (Year 3)
April 25, 2013**

**Prepared by John K. Pierre
Vice Chancellor for Institutional Accountability
And Evening Division**

**Southern University Law Center
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SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE SYSTEM

J.S. CLARK ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70813

Office of the President
(225) 771-4680

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(225) 771-5522

May 1, 2013

Dr. Jim Purcell
Commissioner of Higher Education
State of Louisiana
1201 N. Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

RE: 2013 GRAD Act Annual Reports

Dear Commissioner:

Attached are the 2013 GRAD Act Annual reports for the member campuses of the Southern University and A & M College System.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me or Martin Fortner, Director, Planning Assessment & Research at mfortner@susla.edu.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ronald Mason, Jr.", followed by a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Ronald Mason, Jr.
President
Southern University System

Enclosures

cc: Martin B. Fortner, Director, Planning Assessment & Research
Walter T. Tillman, Jr., System Officer for Academic Initiatives
Larry Tremblay, Deputy Commissioner for Planning, Research and Academic Affairs
Ray L. Belton, SUSLA Chancellor
James "Jim" Llorens, SUBR Chancellor
Freddie Pitcher Jr., SULC Chancellor
Victor Ukpolo, SUNO Chancellor



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

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OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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May 1, 2013

Dr. Ronald Mason
President
Southern University System
J.S. Clark Administration Bldg., 4th Floor
Southern University
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

RE: 2013 GRAD Act Annual Reports

Dear Dr. Mason:

Enclosed is the 2013 GRAD Act Annual report on behalf of the Southern University Law Center.

If you have any questions, please contact me or John K. Pierre, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Accountability and the Evening Division.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Freddie Pitcher, Jr.", is written over the printed name.

Freddie Pitcher, Jr.
Chancellor-Southern University Law Center

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Performance Objective

1. Student Success

The Southern University Board of Supervisors approved the establishment of baseline data, benchmarks or goals, and six year targets for performance by the Southern University Law Center contained in Attachment D of the GRAD ACT Template for Establishing Initial Performance Agreement Baseline, Benchmarks, and 6-year Targets. The GRAD ACT provisions applicable to the Law Center relative to student success included the following targeted measures:

- (a) 1st to 2nd Year Retention Rate
- (b) Same institution Graduation Rate
- (c) Institutional Median LSAT Scores
- (d) Institutional Passage rate on the Bar Examination

With respect to retention, the Southern University Law Center's baseline data included actual data for the 1st year students enrolled in Fall 2006, Fall 2007, and 2008 that were retained as 2nd year law students in the Fall 2007, Fall 2008, and Fall 2009 respectively to calculate a three year average of the 579 first-year students enrolled over the aforementioned three year period, 473 were retained as second year students for a 3 year average baseline rate of 81.6%. The retention rate goal for the reporting period was 82%. For purposes of the 2013 annual report the following data is applicable

- ♦ 137 enrolled in Fall 2011
- ♦ 111 retained in Fall 2012
- ♦ Calculated Rate - 81.1% (Goal Met)

The Southern University System Board of Supervisors has promulgated policies that require each campus or constituent unit of the Southern University System to implement enrollment management strategies/policies that would enable the campus/constituent institution to achieve cohort graduation rates, retention rates, and graduation productivity goals that are consistent with institutional peers. With respect to 1st to 2nd year retention rate goals at the Southern University Law Center, the enrollment management and retention strategies/policies that have allowed the Law Center to meet GRAD ACT performance goal by being within two percent points of 82%. The Law Center intensified its efforts with respect to the Law Center's School Year Academic Assistance Program and the Law Center's counseling services by pouring more resources into the Academic Assistance Program and counseling services. Upper class teaching assistants were hired to work with first year law students to develop and improve the study skills and analytical skills of first year law students.

With respect to the same institution graduation rate, the Law Center's baseline data included actual data for first year full-time students enrolled in fall 2004, Fall 2005, and Fall 2006 who graduated within three years in Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2009 respectively which was used to calculate a three-year average. Of the 415 first-year full-time students enrolled during the aforementioned three year period, 332 graduated in three years for a three-year average of 80%.

For purposes of the 2013 annual report the following data is applicable:

- ◆ 154 Full-time First Year Students Enrolled in Fall 2009
- ◆ 123 Full-time Cohort From Fall Graduated in Spring 2013
- ◆ Calculated Rate - 79.8% (Goal Met)

As stated previously, the Southern University Board of Supervisors has promulgated policies that require the Law Center to implement enrollment management strategies/policies that would enable the Law Center to achieve cohort graduation rates that are consistent with institutional peers. With respect to graduation rates at the Law Center, the enrollment management strategies/policies have led to graduation rates that meet GRAD ACT performance goal which was set at 81%, because the rate was within 2 percentage points of the goal. Law Center resources are being poured into the Office of Academic Success. The Office of Academic Success has intensified efforts to provide supplemental resources to students who have completed their first year so that those students can graduate in a timely manner. In addition, the Office of Academic Success has worked more closely and cohesively with the Law Center's Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Chancellor for Institutional Accountability and Evening Division, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and Associate Vice chancellor for Enrollment Management.

Other student Success Measures

Graduation Productivity – 2013 Annual Report

- ◆ 170 Completers in 2011-12
- ◆ 1,079 FTE in 2011-12
- ◆ Calculated Ratio – 15.76%

Award Productivity – 2013 Annual Report

- ◆ 170 Completers in 2011-2012
- ◆ 1,079 FTE in 2011-2012
- ◆ Calculated Ratio - 15.76%

Median profession School Entrance Exam Score of Entering Class

- ◆ Institutional Median LSAT Scores-Average Fall 2007, 2008, 2009 1st year -145
- ◆ Institutional Median LSAT Score – Fall 2012 – 146 (Goal Met)

Institutional Passage Rates on Bar Exam for 1st Time July Test Takers

The baseline data for the Southern University Law Center included actual data for 2007, 2008, and 2009 graduates who sat for the July 2007, July 2008 and July 2009 bar examination as first-time takers. Of the 301 graduates for the aforementioned respective period who took the aforementioned respective July bar examinations, 182 passed the exams for a three year average of 60.46%. The state average for the respective period was 69.9%. Hence the Law Center's institutional rate as compared to the state rate for the respective three year period was 86.76%, calculated as follows: $\frac{\text{Institutional Rate (60.46\%)}}{\text{State Rate (69.69\%)}} = 86.76\%$

State Rate (69.69%)

For purposes of the 2013 annual report the following data is available

- ◆ 108 graduates sitting for July 2013 bar exam for first-time
- ◆ 60 graduates passing exam
- ◆ Calculated Rate (Institutional Passage Rate) – 56%
- ◆ State Passage Rate - 67%
- ◆ Institutional Passage Rate/State Passage Rate: 56%/67%
- ◆ Calculated as a percent: 84% (Goal Not Met)

The benchmark performance objective for the reporting year was 88%.

The Law Center results for first time takers in July 2012 fell by 10.3%, while the state's first time passage rate fell by 7.8% from the previous year. The Law Center has engaged in intensified efforts to raise the first time passage rate for July 2013 by offering more bar preparation sessions during the academic year. The reduction in pass rate for both the Law Center and the state average is attributable to a new bar examination testing scheme that has raised the minimum score needed to pass the exam.

3. Workforce and Economic Development

The Southern University Board of Supervisors approved the establishment of baseline data benchmarks or goals, and six year targets for performance by the Southern University Law Center relative to Workforce and Economic Development as contained in Attachment D of the GRAD ACT Template for Establishing Initial Performance Agreement Baseline, Benchmarks and 6-year Targets. With respect to workforce and Economic Development, the Law Center was required to develop a targeted measure for placement rates for graduates. The Law Center's baseline data included placement rates on a 3 year average for 2007, 2008, and 2009 graduates. Of the 367 graduates for the aforementioned respective period, 274 were placed in jobs within 9 months after graduation for same aforementioned respective period for a three year average baseline rate of 74.65%. For purposes of 2013 annual report the following data is applicable:

Number of 2012 graduates 170.
Number Placed in Jobs 127.
Calculated Percent 75%. (Goal Exceeded)

The placement rate for Law Center graduates mirrors the downturn in jobs available to law graduates due to the national recession and economic downturn. The economic downturn is expected to affect graduates for the 2013 class negatively as well. The prospects for that class are not rosy and are expected to be very gloomy for 2013 graduates. Despite the gloomy prospects, the Law Center exceeded GRAD ACT benchmark performance objectives in this area by 1.6 percentage points.

4. Institutional Efficiency and Accountability

Upon entering the initial performance agreement, the Southern University Law Center was required to adhere to a schedule established by the Southern University Board of Supervisors to increase nonresident tuition / fee amounts that were not less than the average tuition/fee amount changed to Louisiana residents attending public Historically Black Law Schools in other Southern Regional Education Board states. The Law Center developed a plan to increase non-resident tuition/fee amounts by \$1,000 per year as follows:

<u>Nonresident Tuition/Fee Amounts</u>				
Base-Year				
<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>	<u>2012-2013</u>	<u>2013-2014</u>
\$4,600	\$5,600	\$6,600	\$7,600	\$8,600
<u>2014-2015</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>		
\$9,600	\$10,600	\$11,600		

With respect to the plan to increase non-resident tuition/fees, the Law Center anticipates that for the 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 academic year, the impact of non-resident tuition/fee increases will not detrimentally affect enrollment while increasing self-generated revenue for the Law Center due to increases in nonresident tuition/fees. Beyond the 2012-13 academic year, it would be difficult to speculate what impact the increased nonresident tuition/fees would have on enrollment and revenue for 2014-15 and beyond.

The total tuition and fees charged to nonresidents for the 2009-2010 academic year was \$4,600. The actual peer non-resident tuition/fee amount for the 2009-2010 academic year was 11,600. The difference between the peer non-resident tuition/fee amount and the Southern University Law Center nonresident tuition/fee amount was \$7,000. For the 2013 annual report, the following data is available:

Southern University Law Center 2012-2013 Non-resident tuition/fee amount - \$7,600.

♦ 2012-2013 Peer Non-Resident tuition/fee amount \$11,600.

♦ Calculated Percent difference from peer amounts 66%.

Southern University Law Center
GRADACT – Section 5
Performance Objectives Data

5(a) Number of students by classification

• Headcount – fall 2011

(1) Undergraduate students	0
(2) Graduate/Professional School Students	730

• Annual Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)

(1) Undergraduate students	0
(2) Graduate/Professional School Students	730

5(b) Number of Instructional Staff Members students by classification– fall 2011

(1) Instructional Faculty Headcount	60
(2) Instructional Faculty FTE	40.6

5 (c) Average Class Students –to-Instructor Ratio

• Average Undergraduate Class Size-N/A

5(d) Average Number of Students per Instructor –fall 2011

22.38

• Ratio of FTE students to FTE instructional faculty

5(e) Number of Non-Instructional Staff Members-Fall 2011

(1) Fall 2009 Non Instructional Staff Members Headcount	37
(2) Fall 2009 Non Instructional Staff Member FTE	37

5(f) Number of Staff in Administrative areas-Fall 2011

(1) Number of Executive/Managerial Staff	23
i. Academic Affairs	5
ii. Institutional Accountability	18

(2) Number of Executive/Managerial Staff FTE	23
i. Academic Affairs	5
ii. Institutional Accountability	18

5(g) Organizational Chart – See Attachment 1

5(h)

POSITION	TOTAL BASE SALARY FALL 2011	SALARY CHANGES SINCE 6/30/2008
Chancellor	\$218,284	0
Vice Chancellor for Institutional Accountability and Evening Division	\$140,000	0
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	\$140,000	0
Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs	\$115,000	0
Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Business Affairs	\$95,880	0
Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Counseling	\$95,288	0
Associate Vice Chancellor for Records and Enrollment	\$89,000	0

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
September 11, 2012

